

A
REVIEW
 OF THE
Affairs of FRANCE:

With Observations on TRANSACTIONS at Home.

Thursday, July 19. 1705.

I Am upon enquiring who they are, that make this most Ridiculous Complaint of the Danger of the Church: and this of Course has carried me back to a Pamphlet Entitled, *A Letter from a Friend in the Country, to a Member of Parliament*; which Pamphlet was afterwards own'd, as was Noted before, by Dr. A——d and Mr. K——y, both of Coventry; in which a Sketch of the Occasional Bill was presented to the World.

By this Enquiry, it appears, that this wonderful Care of the Church, had its beginning among the Church's worst Enemies.

In pursuing this, I have been oblig'd to Quote the unhappy Language some Gentlemen give the Queen, the Bishops, and the Clergy that are less Warm. I am a most Humble Petitioner to the Gentlemen of the Clergy, to judge me with Charity in these Representations; I Protest against the Supposition, that I Quote them of the Clergy as such, because they are so horrid Unchristian and Irrational. I Reverence the Clergy that retain themselves within the Bounds

of Christians; Gentlemen, and Subjects—but these Instances seem necessary to shew the Morals and Manners of these Church Champions, who cry out of the Danger of the Church, and pretend to concern themselves for her safety, Bullying the Government in Sermons, Speeches and Memorials.

If some such as these are found at the bottom of every Complaint; if these are the only Persons mov'd as the Church's Danger; What shall we say for the Church?

These are the very Principles of the Memorial; and this may pass for an Examination of that Book, without repeating its Title. Thro' that whole Book, we are told of the Danger of the Church; and why, because Men of these raving Principles are turn'd out.

And one Jest cannot be but diverting, That among the Champions of the Church, which are dismiss'd from Court, one Noted Peer is Nam'd, who, all the World knows, never troubled himself with any Church; and is not supposed to have any more Religion,

N n than

than the Deceased Duke of B——— m.

If the Book be discover'd to come from the hand Common Fame names to it, it will not easily depart from my Apprehension, but that the very Man, meant above, had the greatest hand in the Compiling it.

Who could ever, *but he*, have put his Name down as a Champion of the Church?

—— If there was Money to be got by it, indeed he might have been suspected; but else, they that put him in the Front of the Gentlemen concern'd for the Church, must do it either to Banter, or Affront him.

I have been told of a certain *Worthy Tacker*, who being a Candidate for Parliament, caused a Flag to be carried before him, with this Device, *A Church Leaning and ready to fall*, and himself under it, holding it up.

When he had been at the Place, and was Chosen again, he comes back with another Flag, which he had reserv'd *in Petto*, and then the Church was represented *standing upright*, and his Worship walking before it.

This was a wrong Device; for were the the Church really falling, I must needs say, few of these Gentlemen would stand under to hold her up, for fear they should be crush'd in the fall.

But these are all said to be Defenders of the Church; I must confess, *I think not*: Wo be to the Church, if *Jacobites*, *Non-Jurants* and *Tackers* must hold her up.

We have seen these Hot Men out a great while, some of them a Year, some two; and pray, Gentlemen, tell us, what has the Church lost by their being turn'd out? We saw them in a Year or two, and what did the Church gain by them? What security did they bring to the Church, more than she had before?

Was Justice more undistinguishedly Administred before, than since? Was any thing done for Trade, for the Queen, for the People, or the Church, more than was before or since?

Among the many Enemies of the Church, whose being put into other Peoples stead, in the Royal Favour, gives a sad Prospect to the Church, and who have been suggested to

bring the Church of *England* into Danger; one of the Principal is his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*.

Why really, Gentlemen, these are some of these remarkable Instances, in which Malice Gallops faster than the Understanding can follow. As these People are Angry at being thought Fools, they ought not to expect that the People of *England* will be pleased to be call'd Fools and made Fools too, at the same time. To hear People say, that the Duke of *Marlborough* is pulling down the Church of *England*; Why, our Common People would be ready to Laugh at these Gentlemen — How! *Beat the French to ruine the Church*, how can this be? What, are the *French* the Supporters of the Church? Is the Duke of *Bavaria* a Friend to the Church?

Really, Gentlemen, you must have most Scoundrel Thoughts of the Peoples Sences that read your Papers, to think of prevailing upon them to believe this Stuff.

I confess there are some Incoherences in the matter, suitable in their kind, to this; and upon Examination would appear as absurd as this; such as branding the Bishops, the Queen, the Lords, and the like, with pulling down the Church; but nothing could be so strangely Adapted, to the Genius of Common Banter, to the Capacity of every mean understanding.

That the Duke of *Marlborough* should Attack the *French* Lines, should push their Armies to all Extremities; Baulk their Councils, Take their Generals; pursue them over Rivers, Towns, Fortifications, and all the Precautions of the highest Art of War; and all this to pull down the Church.

Well, Gentlemen, if this be to put the Church in Danger, here's strange doings in the World: For here the Church keeps Holiday, the Queen makes Processions to *St. Paul's*, the Clergy sing Anthems, and all the People give Thanks on these Occasions; the Duke is Bless'd, Congratulated, Rewarded, even by the House of Commons; what, Gentlemen! All this for joyning in Confederacy, with a Gang of Courtiers, to pull down the Church?

Pray, Gentlemen go back again, let the Duke of *Marlborough* be call'd Home, and a Churchman put in his Room, that may let the French beat him for *Propagation of the Faith*; and run away, for the Safety of the Church.

These are the Inconsistencies of the Party, this is their Memorial Argument, their high Church Consequences; I cannot but think it the Duty of every *English* Man, as much as in him lies, to inform the People, who are thus Impos'd upon, and to let them see a little the way our Church is to be secur'd by those People that cry out so much of her present Distress.

Next to my Lord Treasurer, no Man is worse in their Esteem; or has more of their Ill Language than the Duke of *Malborough*, that is Fighting for the Safety of *England*, against Popery, Tyranny, Universal Monarchy, and all the complication of Devils, that has push'd so far at the Destruction of *Europe's* Liberty; and has drove all the Protestant Powers of Christendom, to an absolute necessity of Leaguings together, for their common Security.

This is the same Cause, for which the Late Glorious King *WILLIAM* so often fought, so long struggled, and so bravely hazarded his Life; and now an *English* Duke, fir'd with the same Zeal, and fir'd with the same desire of the general Prosperity, pushes at our Safety and Establishment, runs down all before him. This is the Man, that is branded by this Unhappy Party, with the Scandal of Ruining and Destroying the Church of *England*.

At least, Gentlemen, be friends with him now; if he is a Party to your Church's, Destruction at Home, you must own him very Vigorous in its defence Abroad.

Now common Charity would lead any body to think, that he who Fights so bravely, that pushes so successfully, for the safety of the Protestant Religion, and the Church of *England* abroad, cannot, without strange inconsistent Argument, be suppos'd to be an Enemy to the Church at home.

Of equal Folly are all their Discourses Guilty; and with equal Scorn and Contempt, do all Wise Men receive the ridiculous Banter.

And this Nation among all the Blessings attending the Glorious Victory, Obtain'd by the Duke of *Marlborough*, has this, as none of the least, that the Vile Notion, rais'd by a yet more Vile Party, that this Hero, or this Ministry, with whom he acts in Concert, are not, nor can be Instrumental to injure the Church; all their Fighting, Conquering, and Struggling, both Abroad and at Home, being a plain and just Indication, of their True Zeal for the Church of *England*, and the Prosperity of the Protestant Religion in general.

May the Church never want such Guardians; and let the Malecontented Party, bring out their Seditious Memorials every Day, till they expose themselves more and more; become justly Odious to all the World, and particularly contemptible to all Good Men.

“ **W**Hereas of meer Malice, and with Design, among several other Mischiefs, to Load the Author of this with Entangling Suits, and Excess of Charges, several Actions have been Entred, and Suits Commenced, some on Account of Trifles not worth naming, some for Debts after they are fairly Paid and Discharged, and some in Names of Persons unknown to, and unconcerned with the Author, who is made Defendant.

“ And whereas three several Actions stand Entred in the Compters in the City against *D. D. F.* as follows.

“ One for 1350— in the Name of *Tbo. Green*, in the *Poultry* Compter.

“ One for 1100— in the Name of *James Fry*, in *Woodstreets* Compter.

“ One for 350— in the Name of *Tbo. Griffin*, in my Lord Mayor's Court.

“ These are to Desire the several Attorneys who have Entred the said Actions, if any such there be, to give Notice to the said Offices of their Names; and if they are not Asham'd of it, to let their Clients be known; for the said *D. F.* declares, he knows not who they are, nor for what they Sue; and if any real Debt can be made appear, for which such Actions are Entred, he promises either to Pay them.

them, or Voluntarily go to Prison till he can Pay them.

Just Publish'd,

THE Appendix to the Review; Together with an Index of the First Volume; which Compleats the said First Volume of the Reviews: And all those Gentlemen, who have bespoke of the Author, the said First Volume Entire, may have them Deliver'd, Bound up together with all the Supplements, at F. Matthews's, or at the Publishers of the Review.

WHEREAS a Proposal has been made by the Author of this Paper, for Subscriptions to a Book in Folio, Entitled, *Jure Divino*; or, *A Satyr upon Tyranny and Passive Obedience*. To which, Abundance of Gentlemen having long since Subscrib'd, and the Time seeming long for its coming out, some very Good Reasons having obliged the Author to put a stop to it,

These are to give Notice, That the said Book is now in the Press, and shall go on to be Printed with all Expedition: And for the further Satisfaction of the Subscribers, the Sheets may be seen every Day, by any that please to give themselves that Trouble, at Mr. Matthews's, as they come out of the Press.

All those Gentlemen, who have Collected Subscriptions for this Book, are Desir'd to send in an Account of what Number they have taken, there being no more to be Printed, than shall be given Notice, as Subscribed; and, if they please, to Pay the Subscription Money to Mr. Matthews, in *Pillington Court, Little-Britain*, Receipts will be given there for it:

Lately Publish'd,

THE Consolidator; or, *Memoirs of sundry Transactions in the World in the Moon*: By a Native of that Climate. Translated from the Lunar Language, by the Author of *The True-born English Man*.

Just Publish'd,

THE High-Church Legion: Or, *The Memorial Examin'd*. Being, A New Test of Moderation. As 'tis Recommended to all that love the Church of England, and the Constitution. Printed in the Year 1705. Price 6 d.

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